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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/813,553	03/21/2001	Masayuki Tada	0828.65333	3668
24978	7590	05/09/2006	EXAMINER	
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN 300 S WACKER DR 25TH FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60606			KYLE, CHARLES R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3624	

DATE MAILED: 05/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	09/813,553		TADA ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Charles Kyle		3624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3 and 6-11 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Claims 3 and 6-11 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in the reply filed on 28 February 2006.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1 and 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US 6,009,427 *Wolff*.

Regarding Claim 1, *Wolff* discloses the invention as claimed, including in a data linking system for linking data between a transmitter side and a receiver side, elements of:

a data storage device for storing said data (Fig. 2A, ele. 64, 66; Col. 8, lines 10-11, at least);

Art Unit: 3624

a transmitter-side data linking apparatus including transmitter-side storage information management means for managing storage information concerning control of storage of said data in said data storage device (Fig. 2A, ele 54 “Write Access”, Col. 8, line 50 to Col. 9, line 3; Fig. 2C, ele. 96; Col. 9, line 15-20) transmitter-side storage information interface means for transmitting and receiving said storage information for linkage with said receiver side (Col. 8, lines 8-49) and data writing means for writing said data into said data storage device based on said storage information (Fig. 2C, “Physical I/O”; Col. 9, line 25 to Col. 10, line 27; Col. 7, lines 6-62); and

a receiver-side data linking apparatus including receiver-side storage information management means for managing said storage information concerning control of storage of said data in said data storage device receiver-side storage information interface means for transmitting and receiving said storage information for linkage with said transmitter side, and data reading means for reading said data from said data storage device based on said storage information (comparable citations as for transmitter side above, *Wolff* discloses a read function at Figs. 5A-5E and related text, at least. Per Fig. 2A, Clients 54 and 56 are understood to be transmitter (write) side and receiver (read) side elements communicating with storage device 66).

Regarding Claims 4 and 5, see the discussion above and *Wolff* also discloses storage information management means arranged outside the transmitter and receiver side devices at Fig. 2C, eles. 206 and 208 and Col. 9, line 39 to Col. 10, line 4.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 6,009,427

Wolff.

As to Claim 2, *Wolff* discloses the invention substantially as claimed. See the discussion of Claim 1. *Wolff* also discloses the use of a writing start number (pointer) for use in writing data into a data storage device at Col. 14, lines 52-54. *Wolff* also discloses a pointer for searching at Col. 11, lines 48-51, but does not specifically disclose a read pointer. Official Notice is taken that searching data requires the reading of such data. For example, it would be necessary to read data from a store to search its contents. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the search pointer of *Wolff* for reading because this would avoid the need to read all data from the beginning of a storage device any time a read process was performed. The Examiner makes this assertion as the recipient of a master's degree in computer science from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles Kyle whose telephone number is (571) 272-6746. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 to 3:00.

Art Unit: 3624

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on (571) 272-6747. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

crk
May 4, 2006

Primary Examiner
Charles Kyle
Art Unit 3624

